



GAIL FARBER, Director

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

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March 18, 2014

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

41 March 18, 2014

Sachi A. Hamai
SACHI A. HAMAI
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

FINDINGS AND ORDERS OF THE BUILDING REHABILITATION APPEALS BOARD IN THE UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF ROWLAND HEIGHTS AND WHITTIER (SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 4) (3 VOTES)

SUBJECT

This action will adopt the findings and orders of the Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board pursuant to Title 26 of the Los Angeles County Code, Building Code, which provides for the arrest and abatement of neighborhood deterioration and the elimination of unsightly, unsafe, and unhealthful conditions, which constitute a public nuisance.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

Adopt the findings and orders of the Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board that provide for abatement of public nuisances at the following locations:

14718 Mystic Street, Whittier, California 90604
1465 Cronin Drive, Rowland Heights, California 91748

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The purpose of the recommended action is to provide for abatement of public nuisances through rehabilitation procedures. Title 26 of the Los Angeles County Code, Building Code, provides for a Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board to hear appeals on matters concerning public nuisances.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The Countywide Strategic Plan directs the provisions of Operational Effectiveness (Goal 1) and

Integrated Services Delivery (Goal 3) as it provides services to the public that have a wide-reaching positive effect on the entire community. The action will provide for the arrest and abatement of neighborhood deterioration and the elimination of unsightly, unsafe, and unhealthful conditions, which constitute a public nuisance. This action will also maximize opportunities to measurably improve client and community outcomes and leverage resources through the continuous integration of health, community, and public safety services.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

There will be no increase in net County cost or negative fiscal impact. Costs of the abatement work are billed to the property owner(s). Failure to pay the bill will cause a special assessment to be placed on the tax bill and a Notice of Abatement Lien will be recorded against the property with the office of the County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The Building Code provides for abatement of public nuisances through rehabilitation procedures contained in Chapter 99.

Government Code Section 25845 requires that the property owner(s) be provided an opportunity to appear before the Board and be heard prior to abatement of the nuisance(s) by the County. However, the Board adopted modified procedures that delegated the required hearing to the Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board with the requirement that the Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board make a written recommendation to the Board.

The Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board has conducted the required hearing for the properties listed below. The Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board considered all competent evidence and testimony offered by all persons pertaining to the matters of the substandard properties. The Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board made a finding of facts in the matter and declared the following properties to be a public nuisance.

The Board may either adopt these findings and orders of the Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board without further notice of hearing or may set the matter for a de novo hearing before the Board.

ADDRESS: 14718 Mystic Street, Whittier, California 90604

Finding and Order: The Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board made a finding that the property is substandard, declared the property a public nuisance, and issued the following order: that by April 21, 2014, permits be obtained and the structure be repaired to Code or rebuilt to Code, if substantial progress, extend to May 20, 2014.

List of Defects

1. Maintenance of premises so out of harmony and/or conformity with the maintenance standards of adjacent properties as to cause substantial diminution of the enjoyment, use, or property values of such adjacent properties.
2. Broken or discarded furniture and household equipment in yard areas for unreasonable periods.
3. Miscellaneous articles of personal property scattered about the premises.

4. Trash, junk, and debris scattered about the premises.
5. Wrecked, dismantled, or inoperable vehicle(s) or parts thereof stored for unreasonable periods on the premises.

ADDRESS: 1465 Cronin Drive, Rowland Heights, California 91748

Finding and Orders: The Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board made a finding that the property is substandard, declared the property a public nuisance, and issued the following orders: (a) that by March 21, 2014, the property be cleared of all trash, junk, debris, discarded household furniture, and miscellaneous personal property and maintained cleared thereafter, (b) that by March 21, 2014, permits be obtained and the structure be repaired to Code, (c) that by March 21, 2014, the block wall be repaired or removed, (d) that the structure be maintained secured to prevent unauthorized entry, and (e) that the property be maintained secured to prevent unauthorized entry and dumping.

List of Defects

1. Maintenance of premises so out of harmony and/or conformity with the maintenance standards of adjacent properties as to cause substantial diminution of the enjoyment, use, or property values of such adjacent properties.
2. The building was open and accessible to juveniles and transients and was a health, fire, and safety hazard to the adjacent community. The fire damaged structure must be maintained secured or closed forthwith so as to prevent unauthorized persons from gaining access thereto.*
3. Portions of the interior and exterior are fire damaged.
4. Doors and windows are broken.
5. The electrical wiring is fire damaged.
6. Broken or discarded furniture and household equipment in yard areas for unreasonable periods.
7. Miscellaneous articles of personal property scattered about the premises.
8. Trash, junk, and debris scattered about the premises.

The interior of the building was not accessible for inspection; therefore, additional defects may be found when an interior inspection is made.

*The following option was given to the owner

"If, in your opinion, the building or structure is sufficiently secured or closed, or for any other reason you cannot comply with Item Number 2 on this 'List of Defects,' you may request a hearing within ten days of receipt of this notice. If the required work is not performed within ten days after service of this notice and if a timely demand for a hearing is not made, the County may perform the work at the expense of the said owner."

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

Not applicable.

CONCLUSION

The Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board confirmed the County Building Official's findings that the listed properties are substandard because they are injurious to health, offensive to the senses, and obstructs the free use of neighboring properties so as to interfere with the comfortable enjoyment of life and property.

Please return one adopted copy of this letter to the Department of Public Works, Building and Safety Division.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gail Farber". The script is cursive and fluid.

GAIL FARBER
Director

GF:DH:nm

c: Chief Executive Office (Rita Robinson)
County Counsel
Executive Office